

Senior Associate (School Mental Health) Full Time with Benefits

Summary

The Child Health and Development Institute (CHDI) is seeking a **Senior Associate** to serve as a Quality Improvement Advisor/Evaluator to work on school mental health projects related to performance improvement and implementation of promising and evidence-based practices in school- and community-based children's behavioral health. The Senior Associate will be responsible for overseeing quality improvement activities for Project AWARE and other initiatives, to include incorporation of implementation science and research, standardized data collection and reporting procedures to ensure quality and sustainability of program implementation, development of fidelity tools to measure and track progress, and consultation with schools and community-based providers to promote sustainability. Project AWARE is a federally-funded national school-based initiative currently implemented in three CT districts (Middletown, Naugatuck, Windham) designed to: 1) increase awareness of mental health challenges among K-12 students, 2) provide training and support to school personnel and providers to recognize and manage behavioral health needs, and 3) connect students and families to appropriate school- and community-based services and supports. CHDI works with state agency partners to provide implementation and evaluation support. The ideal applicant will be proficient in database management, data analysis, and reporting. The individual selected for this position will work within grant- and contract- funded CHDI projects.

Required Education and Skills

- Master's level degree (doctoral degree preferred) in psychology, public health, child development, biostatistics, or a closely related field;
- A high degree of proficiency with database management, data analysis, and reporting;
- Expertise with program evaluation, quality improvement methods and reporting;
- Experience developing, evaluating, and/or implementing fidelity tools and sustainability plans for promising or evidence-based practices;
- Experience managing large data sets using SPSS and Excel;
- Experience providing consultation or training;
- Experience with program management, budgeting, and supervision;
- Excellent interpersonal, communication, and time management skills;
- Experience writing formulas in SPSS syntax/Excel SQL/Google Docs;
- Skills and experience that are preferred, but not required, include: grant writing; scholarly publication and research reports; evaluation methods; understanding of the CT's children's behavioral health, education, and/or juvenile justice systems; program implementation; advanced statistical analysis; evidence-based practice; and research methods.

Compensation

Compensation will be based on experience and will range from \$70,000-80,000 annually (Full Time Equivalent) depending on experience and qualifications. A generous benefit package is provided.

Description of Responsibilities

The Senior Associate will be responsible for overseeing quality improvement/evaluation activities on one or more grant- or contract-funded projects in children's behavioral health. Federal, state, and private funders have invested heavily in the identification, development, implementation, and replication of promising and evidence-based services for youth in Connecticut. Key components of ensuring the delivery of high-quality and effective services include collecting, analyzing, and reporting data to promote fidelity, quality, and outcomes, and promoting sustainability and dissemination of effective programs.

Examples of the Senior Associate's responsibilities are to:

- Develop and monitor implementation and sustainability strategies and plans;
- Oversee collection, cleaning and preparation of quality improvement data;
- Develop evaluation plans and analyze implementation data for quality improvement/evaluation purposes;
- Use statistical and word processing applications (e.g., SPSS [PASW], Excel, Word, and PowerPoint) to analyze and report data in collaboration with data team;
- Produce reports that include professional-quality tables, graphs, and figures and written interpretation of findings;
- Provide or support the delivery of professional development trainings and technical assistance meetings to school and community providers to support quality improvement processes (includes regular in-state travel and may include opportunities for occasional out-of-state travel);
- Communicate findings, in written and verbal formats, to internal and external stakeholders, including co-authored CHDI and/or peer-reviewed publications;
- Regularly update team on progress toward deliverables at internal and external meetings;
- Participate on project-related statewide advisory/leadership teams;
- Supervise Project Coordinator and Data Analyst, support project coordination as needed;
- Collaborate with CHDI team, state agencies and school/community providers to translate findings into quality improvement and evaluation activities;
- Ensure completion of contract deliverables; and
- Assist with grant/contract applications to seek external funding for sustainability.

Organization

CHDI is an independent, non-profit subsidiary of the Children's Fund of Connecticut, which was established in 1992. Working in partnership with state and regional agencies, hospitals, universities, and other organizations, we combine direct funding with research, policy analysis, advocacy, and technical assistance.

The mission of the Institute is to improve the quality of care for all children, emphasizing family-centered, comprehensive care that encompasses both physical and behavioral health. Collaborating with the Connecticut Children's Medical Center, the University of Connecticut, and Yale University, we strive to advance sustainable improvements in primary and preventive health and mental health care practices and policy for all the state's children, with a particular focus on disadvantaged or underserved children and families. CHDI develops, disseminates, evaluates, and expands effective models of practice in children's health, mental health, child welfare, juvenile justice, education, and other settings.

Applications

Only applicants meeting the qualifications described will be considered. Child Health & Development Institute of CT, Inc. requires applicants to have current legal authorization to work in the United States and the company does not sponsor applicants for work visas. To apply, email (1) a current CV and (2) cover letter with qualifications, specifically addressing your experience related to the job requirements and responsibilities above, to Lori Schon at schon@uchc.edu. The position is available immediately, will remain open until filled, and is contingent upon available funding.

The Child Health and Development Institute of Connecticut, Inc. (CHDI) is an equal opportunity employer and acknowledges this in its solicitations or advertisements for employees. It is our policy to provide equal opportunity to qualified individuals, at all levels of employment, regardless of race, color, religious creed, age, sex, gender identity or expression, marital or civil union status, national origin, ancestry, present or past history of mental disability, intellectual disability, learning disability, physical disability, including, but not limited to, blindness, military service, veteran status, pregnancy, genetic information, or sexual orientation. This commitment to equal opportunity applies to decisions related to all aspects of employment, including recruiting, hiring, training, selection, promotion, development, compensation, and the terms, privileges, and conditions of employment.

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